

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A protective drywall joint strip device comprising:  
a rigid elongated core of a predetermined width, configured with longitudinal edges and having an outer surface and an inner surface;  
a cover bonded to said core and configured to project laterally beyond at least one of said longitudinal edges to form at least one flexible flap; and  
said flap formed with elongated, lengthwise grooves with ridges interposed therebetween.
2. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 1, wherein:  
said core is constructed of metal.
3. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 2, wherein:  
said core is constructed of galvanized steel.
4. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 1, wherein:  
said core is constructed of plastic.

5. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 1, wherein:  
said core is configured with a curved lengthwise cross-section such that said outer surface is generally convex and said inner surface is generally concave.
6. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 1, wherein:  
said flap is constructed with perforations extending therethrough for flow of joint compound from one side to the other.
7. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 6, wherein:  
said flap is constructed with said perforations formed with at least one transverse cross-sectional dimension of at least 1/64th of an inch.
8. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 1, wherein:  
said cover is paper.
9. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 8, wherein:  
said cover is constructed of at least three layers.
10. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 1, wherein:  
said flap includes at least three said grooves and four said ridges.

11. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 10, wherein:  
said flap is formed with perforations along said grooves.
12. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 1, wherein:  
said cover is wider than said predetermined width to include said flaps projecting laterally beyond both said longitudinal edges and formed with said grooves and ridges.
13. The drywall joint assembly strip device of claim 6, wherein:  
said flap is formed with said perforations spaced therealong throughout its length.
14. A drywall joint assembly strip device for protecting a drywall corner joint, comprising:  
an elongated core formed with angular flanges terminating in longitudinal edges;  
a cover bonded to said core and projecting laterally beyond said longitudinal edges to form flexible flaps, each having an outwardly-facing surface and an inwardly-facing surface;  
said flaps being formed with elongated, lengthwise grooves and ridges disposed in alternating fashion along at least one of said surfaces to provide linear stiffness in said flaps; and  
said flaps being further formed with spaced-apart perforations along said grooves of sufficient size to provide for the communication of uncured joint compound between said outwardly-facing surfaces and said inwardly-facing surfaces during the installation of said drywall joint assembly strip device onto said drywall corner joint.

15. A drywall trim device for protecting a drywall corner joint, comprising:

a relatively rigid elongated core having a curved lengthwise cross-section so as to have a convex outer surface and a concave inner surface and including a pair of flanges terminating in respective longitudinal edges;

5 a paper cover bonded to said outer surface and extending beyond said longitudinal edges of said core to form flexible flaps; and

said flaps being formed with elongated grooves with spaced-apart perforations and elongated ridges formed lengthwise along said flaps in parallel, alternating relationship.

16. A drywall corner protection strip device for protecting a drywall corner joint, comprising:

an elongated metal core having first and second longitudinal edges;

a paper cover bonded to said metal core and extending beyond said first and second longitudinal edges to form flexible flaps each having an outwardly-facing surface and an inwardly-facing surface;

5 said flaps being formed with elongated grooves and ridges in alternating relationship in said outwardly-facing surfaces to provide linear stiffness in said flaps; and

said flaps being further formed with spaced-apart perforations formed along said grooves to provide for the communication of uncured joint compound between said outwardly-facing surfaces and said inwardly-facing surfaces during the installation of said drywall corner protection strip device onto said drywall corner joint.

17. A drywall joint assembly strip device to be covered by flowable joint compound and comprising:

an elongated core;

a paper cover bonded to said core so as to extend beyond the longitudinal edges of said core to form flexible flaps, said flaps being formed on at least one side with longitudinal rib means for, when said joint compound is applied thereto, afford a mechanical barrier to shifting relative to such compound; and

said flaps formed with compound-directing means and communication means to provide for the communication of said flowable joint compound between said outwardly-facing surfaces and said inwardly-facing surfaces to, when set up, fill the respective said perforations with compound posts.

18. A drywall assembly strip device for protecting a drywall joint, comprising:

core means for spanning said drywall joint;

cover means bonded to said core means and projecting laterally therefrom to form at least one flexible flap;

said flaps being formed with reinforcing means extending lengthwise along said flap to resist longitudinal fluting;

moisture-directing means interposed between said reinforcing means along said flap; and

said flap formed with a plurality of communication means spaced therealong and configured to provide for passage thereunto of uncured joint compound to, when cured, form respective posts.

19. The drywall assembly strip device of claim 18, wherein:

said communication means are formed along said moisture-directing means.

20. A drywall corner protection strip device, comprising:

an elongated, continuous metal core configured with a lengthwise central portion arcuate in cross-section and terminating on each longitudinal core edge in a generally planar, lengthwise flange portion, said core thus having a generally convex outer surface and a generally concave inner surface;

5 a paper cover centrally bonded to said outer surface and configured such that the longitudinal edges of said cover extend beyond said longitudinal core edges to form respective flexible flaps having respective outwardly-facing and inwardly-facing surfaces;

elongated grooves and ridges permanently formed in alternating relationship along said outwardly-facing surfaces to provide linear stiffness for said flaps; and

10 spaced-apart perforations formed along said grooves to provide for the communication of uncured joint compound between said outwardly-facing surfaces and said inwardly-facing surfaces during the installation of said drywall corner protection strip device onto a drywall corner joint.

21. A method of making a drywall joint protection strip device, including the following steps:

selecting a core having an elongate outer surface;

selecting a cover such that the width of said cover is greater than the width of said outer surface;

5 forming said core with a desired cross-section;

bonding said cover centrally on said outer surface such that said cover extends beyond the longitudinal edges of said core to form flexible flaps; and

forming lengthwise grooves and lengthwise ridges in parallel, alternating relationship along said flaps such that said grooves are further configured with spaced-apart perforations therealong.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein:

said core is selected to be metal.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein:

said core is selected to be rigid plastic.

24. The method of claim 21 for use with flowable uncured joint compound and that includes:

forming perforations spaced along the respective said flaps of a size sufficient for flow therethrough of said flowable compound.

25. The method of claim 21, wherein:

the step of forming said cross-section is performed by passing said core through an extrusion die.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein:

the step of forming said cross-section includes forming said core arcuate such that at least one surface thereof is generally convex.

27. The method of claim 21, wherein;

the step of bonding said cover on said core is performed using a hot melt glue.

28. The method of claim 21, wherein the step of forming lengthwise grooves and lengthwise ridges in parallel, alternating relationship comprises:

selecting a mating roller device such that a first roller and a second roller are rigidly mounted in rolling engagement and wherein said first roller is configured with axially spaced-apart circumferential channels and said second roller is configured with axially spaced-apart circumferential rings positioned to mate with said channels and having radially spaced-apart pyramidal spikes thereabout; and

passing each said flap longitudinally through said mating roller device with said outwardly-facing surface oriented toward said second roller so as to form said grooves with spaced-apart perforations and said ridges in said outwardly-facing surface of each said flap.

29. A method of making a drywall corner protection strip device, including the following steps:

selecting an elongated metal core having a convex outer surface;



selecting a paper cover such that the width of said cover is greater than the transverse distance along said outer surface;

5 bonding said cover centrally on said outer surface so that said cover extends beyond the longitudinal edges of said core to form flexible flaps;

forming alternating lengthwise grooves and ridges in said flaps; and

forming spaced-apart perforations along said grooves.

30. A protective drywall joint strip device comprising:

an elongated rigid core of a predetermined width and terminating in opposite longitudinal edges;

5 a paper cover bonded to said core and configured to project laterally beyond the respective said edges to form respective flexible flaps;

said flaps being formed on at least one side with at least four parallel elongated grooves defining therebetween respective reinforcing ribs, said grooves being spaced  $1/8^{\text{th}}$  of an inch apart and said ribs being raised outwardly from the bottoms of the respective said grooves at least  $1/64^{\text{th}}$  of an inch; and

10 said flaps being further formed with respective perforations spaced equidistant along the respective said grooves and projecting extending through said flaps to form open flow apertures at least  $1/64^{\text{th}}$  of an inch in transverse cross action for flow therethrough of joint compound.